

The Newark Eagles has one of the youngest teams in the history of the Negro National League but judging from the clubs showing in early season games, it is going to be up there battling for the Negro pennant throughout the race.

The club is especially strong in the pitching department which is headed up by Leon Day, rated as the greatest hurler in colored baseball. Day has been a top pitcher for several years but he is just beginning to gain the recognition his ability merits.

He jumped into the limelight last season when he fanned 13 members of the Baltimore Elite Giants in a night game in Baltimore last year. Then he stepped into the breach at the East-West game in Chicago last year and struck out five of the seven men to face him in that great baseball classic.

Probably Day's greatest feat last season was when he was taken out to Kansas City to hurl for the Homestead Grays against the mighty Monarchs in one of those world series games. Day faced the great Satchell Paige on this occasion and defeated his famous rival 4-1 and struck out six eleven of the Monarchs in accomplishing this feat.

This season he has hurled brilliant ball in the four times he has taken the mound and looks to enjoy his greatest season. In his first start against the Trenton Packers of the Inter-State league he hurled three inning and fanned seven of the nine batters to face him and caused the other two to ground out weakly to him.

In addition to being a great pitcher Day is also a fine all around ball player and is rated the best fielding pitcher in the game. Sports writers also claim the Eagles have five infielders



when Day is pitching. He has played second base and in the outfield on occasions and has proven himself a first class men in each spot. Day is a terrific hitter and a speed merchant on the bases. Several years ago he ran 100 yards in ten seconds in his baseball uniform.

The rest of the pitching staf is composed of Jim Hill, who is the smallest hurler in the league, but size has not kept him from being an effective hurler. Hill is a southpaw and learned the rudiments of pitching by throwing to the Detroit Tigers when that club used to do its Spring training in Lakeland, Fla., which is Hill's home.

Len Hooker has pitched good ball for the Eagles during the three years he has been with the club but he has been the hard luck man of the club. Hooker has lost more ball games by one run than anybody in the game. This year his team is getting him some runs and he is undefeated in three starts.

The other two pitchers are rookies who are getting their first year of league competition. Bob Williams who hails from Maryland came to Spring training camp as an infielder but threw so hard that other infielders complained bitterly about eh injury he was doing their hands. Manager Mule Suttles decided to make him a pitcher and in the two games he has been on the mound he has shown sufficient ability to convince Suttles that Williams will be a successful pitcher.

Ed Elam an elongated youth from Richmond is the other pitcher and boasts of one of the fastest balls in the game. This youngster has a nice assortment of curves, change of pace besides his blinding speed and is counted upon to be a regular starter.